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624 So. Michigan Ave.

CHICAGO

Telephone Harrison 3252

A. W. L. MORE

APR 29 1937



April 27th, 1937.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Secretary,
The Smithsonian Institute,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor:

First of all I must apologize for not replying to your letter of long ago and also to acknowledge with thanks the copy of the National Geographical Magazine which you so kindly autographed.

However, I had been up in Canada where it was 52 below zero attending a convention and jumped down to Monterrey, Mexico from there where around Laredo down in the desert the thermometer reached a 122 above high. That together with considerable more road work finally took its toll with me and I returned home with a severe case of intestinal flu. After spending two weeks in the hospital, the Doctor ordered me to Florida for 2 or 3 weeks and both Mrs. Briese and I returned from there a week ago. Thus I am just catching up with my correspondence.

I am leaving again for Monterrey where I have a contract for the fireworks displays in connection with their Fair and Exposition. I look forward to its being very unique due to the fact that they will have many of the natives from back in the mountains come there to show their customs of work and living. It is being sponsored by the Government and from the plans that I saw while down there in January, it will be most unusual. It then may be possible that I will proceed on to New York and if I do, I presume I will run into Washington for a day and trust to see you for a few moments at least. We have a factory near Bear, Delaware which I usually visit once or twice a year.

The girls that were on the trip together with Mrs. Briese have formed more or less a club and the young lady from St. Louis was here and they had quite a get-together. I don't know whether Mrs. Callender was with them or not.

Members Chamber of Commerce, U. S. A.; Chicago Association of Commerce; Rotary International; N. A. A. P.

EXCLUSIVE PRODUCERS OF WORLD'S FAIR FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

A CENTURY OF PROGRESS ★ GREAT LAKES EXPOSITION ★ TEXAS CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION

THEARLE-DUFFIELD FIREWORKS
I N C O R P O R A T E D
CHICAGO

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Washington, D.C.

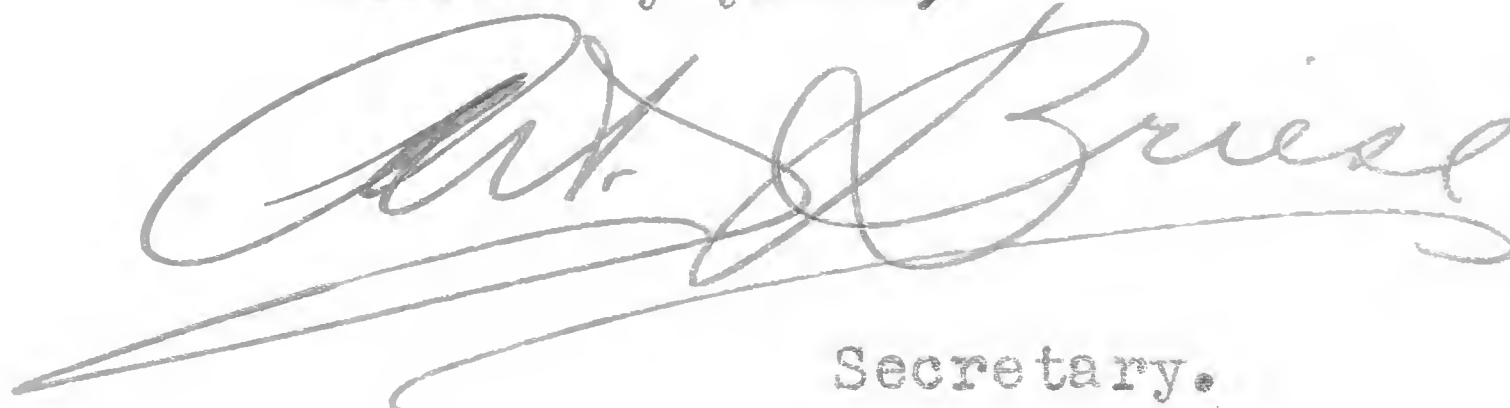
-2-

I have been so busy since returning that I have not found time to phone Mr. Callander. I found a note on my desk of a message from him.

Trusting you are enjoying the best of Health and that we may have the pleasure of seeing one another within the near future.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Art. J. Briese". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the text area below it.

Secretary.

AFB/b

February 18, 1937.

Señor Axel Pira,
Sierra Santa Elena,
Tecpas, Guatemala.

Dear Don Axel:

I had word two days ago that the package with the ammunition and the cotton had finally been shipped to you in Guatemala. The Guatemalan authorities have given the necessary permission for the admission of the cartridges and I hope that the package will reach you safely.

Ten days ago I gave a talk before the Biological Society of Washington on my work in Guatemala, and you may be sure that Sierra Santa Elena figured prominently both in the pictures that I had on the screen and in my remarks. Many people have been in to see the birds that I collected. The skeletons are now being cleaned.

I am enclosing a few more photographs that you may care to add to those sent to you previously.

With my kindest regards to you and to all your family, I am

Sincerely yours,

WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

file

A. WETMORE
FEB 26 1937

Sta. Elena " 13 de Febrero de 1937.

Mr. Alexander Wetmore
Smithsonian Institución
Washington . D. C.

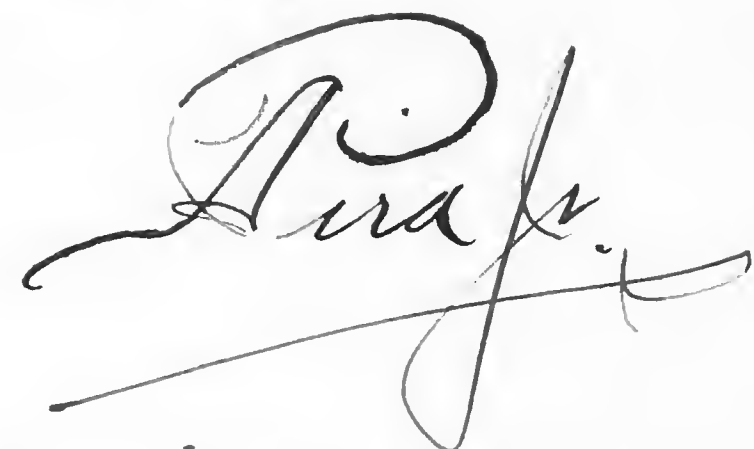
Muy Estimado Sr. Wetmore:

Deseo que se encuentre muy bien.

Recibi sus cartas y le agradezco muchisimo el
envio de los tiros y objetos de disecar en cuanto lleguen le avisareé

H e cojido algunos pajaros raros y tendre mucho
gusto de mandarselos en cuanto pueda cojer un faisán.

Repitiéndóle de nuevo mis agradecimientos lo
saludo cariñosamente y quedo su Affmo. amigo y Servidor.



P. D. Toda mi familia le saluda y papá le escribirá muy pronto.

February 4, 1937.

Mr. A. F. Briese,
624 So. Michigan Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Briese:

Yours of January 19 pleased me greatly. You seem to be covering considerable country and I hope with success in your business. Recently I have been sorting over my photographs and send you herewith a couple of prints that may be of interest to you. Some time when you are in Washington I hope that you will come in to see me so that I can show you the entire lot.

The calender arrived safely and I appreciate having it very much.

Sorry to hear that Mrs. Briese has been ill and hope that now she is entirely recovered.

With my kindest regards to you both, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

January 21, 1937.

Señor Axel Pira,
Sierra Santa Eleana,
Tecpan, Guatemala.

Dear Don Axel:

Herewith I am sending you a few photographs that you will recognize. I have some more for you but will send them along a little later so as not to make this letter too heavy. There has been some delay in getting the package off to Axel Jr. as it has been necessary to obtain a permit for the 32 caliber shells. We hope to have this soon, and will send the package along, as soon as it is received.

I saw Mr. Stadleman who Axel knew at Tela a few days ago. He is on his way to Guatemala in some work relating to the study of maize for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. I wish that I were coming with him.

With my kindest regards to all of you, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

January 21, 1937.

Señor Raul Majera,
Panajachel, Guatemala.

My dear Raul:

Herewith I send you three photographs that may
bring back to you some remembrance of our few days to-
gether around Panajachel.

I often think of Lake Atitlan as I examine the
specimens of birds that I secured there.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

January 21, 1937.

Miss Conchita Valenzuela,
c/o Hotel Rex,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

My dear Miss Valenzuela:

Herewith are the pictures taken at the Casa Colonial in Antigua that I promised to send you before I left Guatemala. I am sorry to have been so long doing this but it is only within the past few days that I have had time to get my photographs straightened out so that I could attend to this and other similar promises.

My journey home was a little longer than I had anticipated. I came by way of New York and was delayed one day by fog, but beyond this had no difficulty.

I hope that you enjoyed your visit to Quetzaltanago and that it was not as cold as you anticipated.

With my kindest regards to you and your mother,
I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE
Assistant Secretary.

lp



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DISPLAYS



OFFICIAL PYROTECHNISTS
FOR A CENTURY OF
PROGRESS

A. WETMORE

JAN 23 1937

January 19th, 1937.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Smithsonian Institute,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Doctor:

First I must apologize for not acknowledging with thanks the copy of the Geographical Magazine you so kindly autographed and is now in my shelf of books.

With the holidays that came upon us so suddenly plus Mrs. Briese being in the hospital for about 10 days for an operation and then several road trips, I have been quite the busy man. However, Mrs. Briese has fully recovered and is home again.

This is right in the midst of our contracting season. Just returned yesterday from Louisville, getting in here about 12 hours late on account of the high-water. It is beyond escription the amount of land that is covered by the swollen rivers down there and we watched them rescue about a dozen people from roof-tops, watching from our train window.

Am leaving tomorrow for a swing out west and north to Winnipeg, Helena, Butte, Spokane, Salt Lake City and Denver, coming back to Chicago to pick up my car and then drive south to Memphis, New Orleans and Dallas and am trying to make the trip in less than a month, so will have to do some real tall stepping.

We drove out I believe Xmas week to see the Callanders. Took the colored movies of Guatemala with as they are pictured in several scenes and they enjoyed them very much. They certainly are fine people.

Under separate cover I am sending you a Company Calander which I trust you will receive okay. With kindest regards, I am

AFB/b - personal-file.

Members Chamber of Commerce, U. S. A.; Chicago Association of Commerce; Rotary International; N. A. A. P.



OUR FAMOUS SPECTACLES

LAST DAYS OF POMPEII—BURNING OF ROME—A NIGHT IN BAGDAD—THE ROAD TO MECCA—BATTLE OF CHATEAU THIERRY
BOMBARDMENT OF FORT MCHENRY—PIONEER DAYS—MARCH ON AMERICA

December 16, 1936.

Mr. Arthur A. Pollan, Vice President
United Fruit Company,
One Federal Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Pollan:

Having now returned from a highly successful collecting trip in Guatemala I wish to write to thank you personally for the many courtesies accorded me by the United Fruit Company during my travels. I found your ships most comfortable and enjoyed meeting Mr. Austin and Mr. La Garde in Guatemala particularly. Mr. Austin was especially helpful in connection with my landing and embarking at Puerto Barrios where the local officials treated me with every courtesy.

I enjoyed meeting you even though it was for a moment only and hope that when you come to Washington you will let me know. I am looking forward to the next opportunity that may take me to Central America.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

December 15, 1936.

Mr. Art F. Briese,
1180 S. Oak Park Ave.,
Oak Park, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Briese:

Yours of November 11 reached me in due time in Antigua, and I appreciate very much indeed hearing from you and Mrs. Briese and receiving the photo that you sent me. Recalling my promise to you I am happy to forward to you, under separate cover, an autographed copy of the October number of the National Geographic Magazine that goes to you with my compliments.

I had two busy weeks in the country around Antigua where I collected birds on all of the volcanoes and down on the arid places to the west toward the Pacific Ocean. Following this I worked for a week at Lake Atitlan, and then spent two weeks in the high mountains back of Tecpam at an elevation ranging from 9000 to 10,500 feet. There were wonderful cypress forests here and in spite of the almost constant fog and rain I obtained a large number of interesting birds. After a few days in the lowlands to dry out again I journeyed down to Barrios collecting for a day on an island, and then had to pack up finally and start for the north.

I enjoyed very much knowing you and thought of you on Sunday and wished that I might join the reunion of the group from the Metapan. Whenever you come to Washington do not fail to let me know.

I am With my kindest regards to you and to Mrs. Briese,

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary.



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OFFICIAL PYROTECHNISTS
FOR A CENTURY OF
PROGRESS

November 11th, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
La Casa Colonial,
Primera Avenudia Sus Num 2,
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Doctor:

We arrived in New Orleans about 6 hours late due to a severe storm the last day out and almost everybody sick on the boat. Had to drive on over to Little Rock for a day and also at Memphis and arrived home Sunday evening with 2-inches of snow on the ground - quite a contrast from the week before.

Certainly sorry I could'nt send you a better picture than the one enclosed, but it was the only one on which you were. I had some wonderful success with my kodak and the colored movies that I took are perfectly wonderful.

Presume the Callanders are on the Gulf today. They are due to arrive tomorrow and I am looking forward to having lunch with him next week some day. We certainly enjoyed them very much.

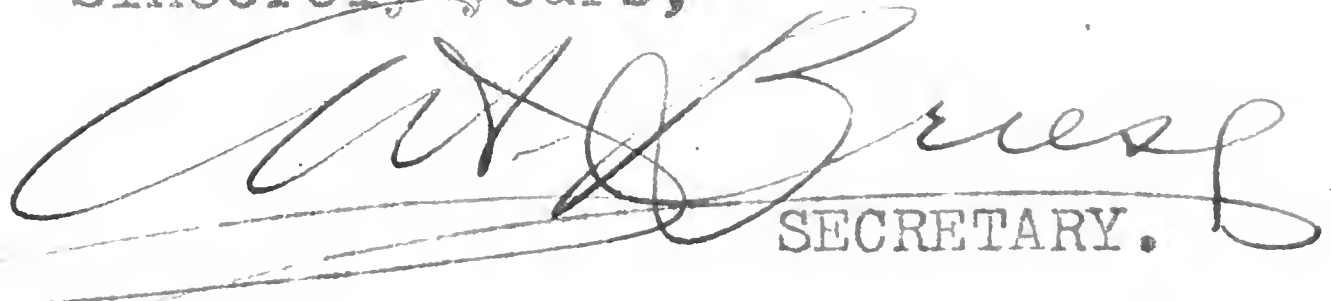
The travel-logue picture on Guatemala is running here in Chicago and I intend taking it in some evening this week.

When you return and find time, I trust you will not forget sending me the autographed copy of the Geographic magazine.

Trusting that you are getting some fine specimen of Guatemala birds and that when you come to Chicago I may have the pleasure of having lunch with you.

Mrs. Briese joins me with the very best of wishes,

Sincerely yours,



SECRETARY.

AFB/m

Members Chamber of Commerce, U. S. A.; Chicago Association of Commerce; Rotary International; N. A. A. P.

OUR FAMOUS SPECTACLES

LAST DAYS OF POMPEII—BURNING OF ROME—A NIGHT IN BAGDAD—THE ROAD TO MECCA—BATTLE OF CHATEAU THIERRY
BOMBARDMENT OF FORT MCHENRY—PIONEER DAYS—MARCH ON AMERICA

file

A. WETMORE
JAN -8 1937



Casa de W.

Antigua 27 Dec 1936

Dear Wetmore:

Many thanks for your
letter of the 16th. I am glad
to know you reached home in
good shape, none the worse
for your sojourn in Guatemala
Tulij. But you ought to
come back and try the new
fire place! It makes all
the difference in the world
after 5 p.m.

We happily spent Christmas here,
and this afternoon are giving
a little cocktail party as an
official house warming, so to
speak. On Thursday I go
down to the West Coast
for a week, then back to
Honduras.

To come again, and spend
more time here! The old
house needs occupancy to
get it well organized and
in running order. I hope
to present the invitation

personally and more thoroughly at working the
about June. In the meantime, it may be
your friends are coming this way, but I ought
to express regards to all the boys at the
Museum.

Always cordially yours,

W. S. Hoar

December 17, 1936.

Mr. Austin,
c/o United Fruit Company,
Puerto Barrios, Guatemala.

Dear Mr. Austin:

Fog delayed us north of Hatteras so that we were a few hours later in reaching New York than we had hoped but on the whole I had a pleasant journey north and I am now again occupied with my usual tasks here in Washington.

My collections were passed without question by the custom officials on the dock in New York City so that I was able to bring them with me direct to Washington. They have come through in excellent condition and I find that I have between 350 and 360 birds to show for my work in Guatemala.

You were most kind to me in Puerto Barrios both on my arrival and on my departure, and I wish to give you my sincere thanks for your attention. If I may be of assistance to you at any time please let me know and be sure to give me a ring if and when you come to Washington.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

December 17, 1936.

Mr. E. J. La Garde,
c/o United Fruit Company,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Dear Mr. La Garde:

I am pleased to write that I am again in my office in Washington after having been landed safely in New York City by Captain McCrae of the Platano. I bring with me in addition to my collections many pleasant memories of Guatemala and particularly of my meeting with you.

If I may help you in any way at any time please let me know. With thanks for your assistance to me while in the field in Guatemala, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

December 16, 1936.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
La Casa Colonial,
Primera Avenida Sur Nr. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Popenoe:

Fog delayed us on the ocean for a day but I finally docked at New York and am back here again in Washington with the usual task before me, the important one today being the annual hearing before the Congressional Committee for our appropriations next year.

I come home with most happy memories of Guatemala and in particular of my comfortable and pleasant life in La Casa Colonial. Truly that is a fine place for one who appreciates the quiet beauties of a placid life and I hope some time to see it again if only briefly. You have been most kind to me and I appreciate it more than I can tell you.

My collections came through in good shape were passed in customs in New York without question and I was able to bring them to Washington myself, and to have them unpacked immediately. It is grand to see them altogether. I secured 320 skins and between 30 and 40 skeletons, including a good many things that are new to our collections.

There is a hint of snow in the air this morning which has made me shiver but I suppose I will be acclimated again in a few days, though I think somewhat regretfully of the heat that is being wasted about Barrios and Cortez at the present time.

I saw Jim Kempton the other evening for a moment and swapped a word or two with him about Guatemala. Next Monday we have our usual monthly dinner at the Cosmos Club with a bottle

of Tequila to assist us. We will think of you and hope that before too long you may be with us again.

Sincerely yours,

A. W. L. L. L.

Assistant Secretary.

lp

Boston, 19 Nov 1936

Dear Wetmore:

I got back here from a hard, dirty trip in Mexico last Monday, and today have rec'd your highly interesting letter of Nov 7th. I cannot tell you how delighted I am that you have really been using the old house. With that high overhead,- eight dollars per month,- I hate to let the place stand idle very long at a time.

I am sailing for Honduras on the Platano, Nov 28th. If it calls at Barrios first I assume I may see you there, since you are coming back on it; but I am afraid they go to Cartes first, in which case I shall just miss you.

I have been staying at Tom Barbour's the past few days. Last night Frank Hunnewell and his sister came to dinner, and we arranged things for them to use the Antigua house toward the middle of January. They are going down on the Grace line.

I go back to Washington to spend Thanksgiving, and hope at that time to drop in on Duncan at the Museum and see what he has done with the Ulua stuff. I ran into Frans Blom here yesterday, and he tells me Doris Zemurray is working up a paper on the Yojoa pottery just as fast as she can. Doubtless she will get into print before Duncan, but I don't think it matters much.

I feel rather badly about that sherry. I hoped you would like it, but if you have only consumed one bottle it is obvious you really don't take to it very strongly. Try the Rhine wine,- or maybe it is all gone. I haven't been there in some months to replenish stocks. I am planning to spend Christmas week over there, and if I do, I shall enjoy your kerosene lamp to the fullest. I got some good books on Spanish Colonial architecture, in Mexico City, which I want to read.

Glad to hear you have been getting chummy with Carlos Cipriani. I think he is the most worth-while Jefe Politico we have had in Antigua.

I'm sorry the construction of the fireplace has been delayed. We need it this time of year. But you cant hurry that sort of thing in Antigua. I think the real reason for the delay is ~~ghat~~ that our mason, Arturo, has been occupied with Don Benedicto Estrada, who has found a new job for him every time he was just about to finish up an old one.

I stopped a day in Washington on the way up here, and had a long talk with Jim Kempton. Didnt get to see any of the rest of the boys, though I hung around the Cosmost Club most of the afternoon hoping someone would drop in.

If you havent a copy of Dorothy's little "Santiago de los Caballeros de Guatemala", you will, I think, find some in the cabinet in the library,- Maria will know,- and I wish you would take one with you as a souvenir. And please dont forget to leave your name in the little guest book which should be on the library table.

If at any time in the future, you get word that any friends or colleagues are planning trips to Guatemala, you will do me a real favor if you will drop me a line and let me find out if there is any chance of their using the house. While there is always the possibility that someone else might be occupying the place, you know that it is not occupied more than 20% of the time, on an average, and I would like to make it just as useful as possible.

Always faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nelson P. P. P.", with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

CLASS OF SERVICE

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SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

WE5 10 RADIO=SS PLATANO 7 1425 GMT VIA UN TROPICAL RADIO

U S NATIONAL MUSEUM=

BOSTON=

WASHINGTONDC=

ENROUTE NEWYORK STEAMSHIP PLATANO=

WETMORE.

Mrs. Pearson

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

12/2/36.

Guatemala City
Nov. 30, 1936.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter this morning. I had been wondering about you and had almost arrived at the conclusion that you had left Guatemala. I was glad, indeed, to hear that you had been enjoying your trip.

I am giving this letter to Dr. Carlos Ruiz because I, unfortunately, am leaving early in the morning for Quetzaltenango and Peten.

I did so want to be here and to tell you good-bye but our trip cannot be postponed and so I am forced to wish you bon voyage this way.

Mr. Callender has not yet sent me a copy of the pictures we took and I did so want some.

How did those you took come out? I would certainly appreciate your leaving me the negatives or copies, especially those in which you were present.

Drop me a line, if ever you have time, and let me know how things are back in the States — and leave me your address because I may come your way sometime and would always be glad to see you.

I hope you really enjoyed your stay here in our country, and I wish you always the best of luck —

Sincerely,

Conchita Valenzuela

PRESIDENTE:
ERNESTO SCHAEFFER

MIEMBRO DEL ROTARY INTERNATIONAL N° 2041

JUNTA DIRECTIVA:

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ARTURO BICKFORD
JULIO MONTANO N.
HENRY HOEPKER
CARLOS F. NOVELLA
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VICEPRESIDENTE:
ARTURO BICKFORD

TESORERO:
HENRY HOEPKER

SECRETARIO:
JULIO MONTANO N.

"DAR DE SI ANTES DE PENSAR EN SI"
"SE BENEFICIA MAS EL QUE MEJOR SIRVE"

Rotary Club de Guatemala
Guatemala, Rep. de Guatemala
Centro-América.

APARTADO POSTAL N° 275.—TEL. 39-00

Guatemala, November 27, 1936.

Mr. Alexander Wetmore,
a/c Casa Colonial,
Antigua.

My dear Mr. Wetmore:

Please accept my thanks for your kind letter of November 26, from which I am pleased to note that you will be in Guatemala City on December 2 and that you can then give a talk on Guatemalan birds at the Rotary Club luncheon.

We shall all be glad to have you with us on the abovementioned date, and are looking forward with great pleasure to your visit. The Rotary luncheons, as you will remember, are given at the Palace Hotel and begin at 12:30 P.M.

Sincerely yours,

E. Schaeffer
E. Schaeffer,
President.

ES-jfe

*Correspondencia Particular
del Director General
de la Policía Nacional.
Guatemala, C. A.*

file
A. WETMORE
DEC 21 1936

Guatemala city, 20th. November 1936.

Mr. Alex Wetmore
Assistant Secretary
Smithsonian Inst.

Tzanjuyú-Hotel.
Panajachel.

My dear Sir:

I have had the pleasure to received your wellcome letter of the 12th. ult. that brings me yours pleasant notice, in regard to your "Bird Specimens Collection" you have obtain in my country, for the United States National Museum.-

I agree exceedingly your satisfaction, and feel glad that my country have present to you this opportunity for your scientific study, hoping at the same time, you will be enjoying some pleasant vacations at that beautifull spot.

With my best regards, I will keep waiting for your kind orders, and in the meantime,

I am respectfully yours


Director Chief of
National Police.

EVM.

11/29/36

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 19, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
c/o Consulado de Los Estados Unidos del Norte,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

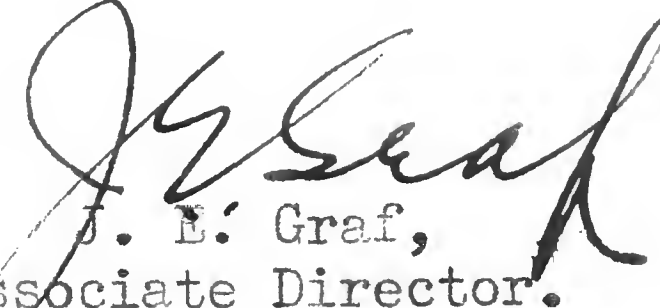
Dear Doctor Wetmore:

This morning we just received a request for justifications for our 1936 appropriations, to be submitted to the Committee before December 1st. There apparently will be no great difficulty in preparing these. I will draw up a rough draft and ask the Secretary to call Harry Dorsey back from his vacation for one day to assist in the editing. We will then mimeograph and send them up. The request came this year via telephone and I asked Mr. Perkins to call back to be sure as to the number of supporting statements they wanted and also to tell them that you had tentatively arranged with Mr. Woodrum so that we would not be called until about the 15th since you would be absent in the field until that time. Mr. Orr, the clerk, said he thought the 15th would be very satisfactory; that he was glad to have this suggestion so that it would assist him in arranging the schedule. I see no reason at all why such an arrangement can not be made since they will not be anywhere near through the hearings by the 15th and we can be heard out of order.

Everything is going nicely. You will probably be interested to know that General Pershing's secretary asked Mr. Belote to get in touch with them to look over some of the General's historic war materials, since the chances were that he would be glad to turn over those we desired to the Museum. I hope this rumor turns out to be correct since this would be the greatest windfall we have had in sometime.

Trusting everything is going well with you, I am

Sincerely yours,


J. E. Graf,
Associate Director.

11/21/36

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
Washington, D. C.

November 16, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
c/o Consulado de Los Estados Unidos del Norte,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Dear Doctor Wetmore:

I was very glad to get your letter and know that everything was going very well with you. The Daveron matter has finally been cleared up. After a long talk with Messrs. Miller and Kellogg, they recommended that \$485.00 would be a fair and reasonable payment to both parties, and this sum has been deposited in his Baltimore bank for him and notification sent to him. I also sent a form down requesting additional locality data on the specimens. Mr. Miller was very well pleased with the specimens and Friedmann informs me that the bird specimens are Jabirus. I had not realized that the citizen was so sizeable until I saw the skeletons.

Blackwelder wrote in and asked for another check of \$1,000 on his project. He claimed this will see him through. I talked with several others and decided there was nothing to do but send the money since it had to leave here before November 20. According to Nick, this will still leave a balance of \$500 on the allotment.

Budget figures have just arrived. There were only three increases (1) \$10,450 for M. & O., including \$3,500 for the water connection, \$4,750 for the high pressure water line, and \$2,200 for new hose. We did not request the latter, but in view of your oral discussion with them at the Budget, they probably decided to give it to us now rather than argue later. Unfortunately, the appropriation language carries a statement indicating that this sum can only be spent for the three items in question, so that it is good only for one year. The second increase was \$4,800 for four guards under P.C., and the third increase \$9,500 for printing and binding. I understand that allocation of the latter is made \$5,000 to the Museum, bringing us to \$30,000, and \$4,300 to the Bureau, bringing them to \$13,300. In checking up the books for 1938, we asked for an increase of \$18,000 for the Museum, and \$16,000 for the Bureau, a ratio of nine to eight, which about agrees with the present distribution. The remainder of the printing fund includes small increases scattered generally throughout the list. You will note that the total under this for the Smithsonian Institution is \$25,250 which, as you once surmised, is about the price of the "Winnie Mae". I hope that the same


action will be taken in another year and they will allow us the \$10,450 M. & O. increase for additional mechanics and supplies. You understand, of course, that this budget information is strictly confidential. There is no word yet as to Congressional hearings. Perkins went up to the Treasury today to straighten out the green sheets. I do not know the general attitude as to appropriations, but I understand that in one Bureau of Agriculture no increases were granted. This being the case, we have double reason to be thankful for the "Winnie Mae".

Lingebach got back, and while we have not yet been asked for the salary due him, we were quite fortunate in getting him reassigned on W.P.A. since they had already closed the list to further appointments.

In view of the fact that John L. Scott returns to college January 1st, I have not taken up the question of his extension for cleaning corals. We are planning to work him right to the end of this month and let him take his leave in December, a privilege the Commission is allowing in emergency cases. This will save us fifteen days' work and it would hardly be worth stirring up the bees for fifteen days additional, especially in view of the fact that the job is only one-third done. I asked Doctor Bartsch if he wanted someone put on right away, but he thought that he would rather wait and think the matter over. He has hopes of getting a permanent job, but I told him there was no money for such a position.

Trusting that everything is going well with you, I am

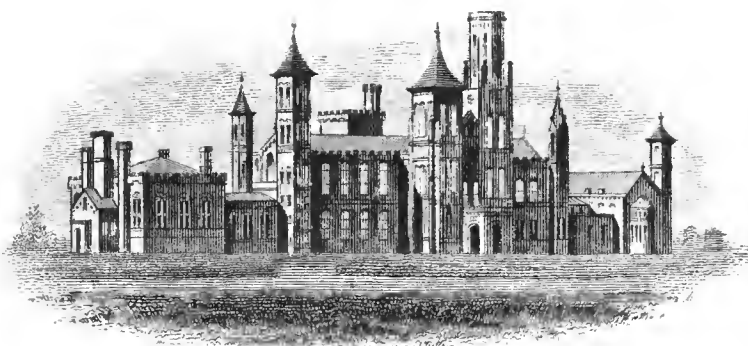
Sincerely yours,


J. E. Graf
Associate Director.

11/22/36

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY
NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

ALL CORRESPONDENCE
SHOULD BE ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Washington, U.S.A.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
FREER GALLERY OF ART
INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES
INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF
SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

November 14, 1936.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

A couple of very interesting things have come up since your departure.

You will recall that Dr. Mann has hoped to go to Sumatra and has had some contacts with the National Geographic Society in that connection. Recently, meeting Dr. Grosvenor at some function, the doctor informed him that \$15,000 would be available at any time, and \$2,000 additional in case of urgent necessity. Since then the usual contract has been prepared by the National Geographic Society and signed by Dr. Mann. A copy of it, with all correspondence, has been kindly furnished me by Dr. Grosvenor. We have approached the State Department for permits from Great Britain and the Netherlands. Dr. Mann hopes to make favorable arrangements with the ocean transportation companies also, and he hopes to go as soon as possible after the completion of the buildings now in progress. He assures me that you were advised of the program until these final recent developments, but it seems to me that you should be advised of them also.

A confidential statement has come from the Bureau of the Budget in which we hold our own without step-ups, and in addition have \$10,000 more for printing, \$4,800 for guards, and \$10,500 for fire protection. No other increases have been allowed.

Hoping that you are having a pleasant and successful trip,
and with kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

EG Abbot

Dr. A. Wetmore,
c/o Consulado de los Estados Unidos del Norte,
Guatemala City,
Guatemala.

PALACE HOTEL
GUATEMALA, C. A.

Excmo General Rodolfo Anzures,
Director General de la Policia Nacional
Guatemala.

My dear Sir:

May I write to express
to you my sincere thanks for
~~the papers~~ ^{letters} that you have so
kindly sent to the American legation
for me which I received yesterday.
Without them my work would
have ~~not~~ been impossible.

During visit to you on Monday,
in company with Mr. Drew you
were kind enough to offer me
the hospitality of your finca on the
slopes of the volcano. I find
~~that it will be necessary for me~~
~~to remain here in Antigua for a~~
~~few days but shall be pleased &~~
~~I am much please~~

accept your offer in a few days
if that will be convenient. I
shall appreciate it if you will
let me know if it will be convenient
for me to go there on Wednesday
next.

Sta. Elena 10 de Nov. de 1936.

Señor Doctor Alexander Wetmore
Panajachel .

Muy Estimado Doctor:

Recibí su muy atenta carta del 5 del cte.

Me es grato manifestarle que el día que Ud. desea con mucho gusto le esperamos en esta su casa . No voy a la feria de Guatemala pero siempre le agradeceré el favor de avisarme con dos días de anticipación de su llegada.

Creo que Ud. aquí encontrara objetos interesantes para sus estudios y de coleccionar.

Esperando sus atentas noticias quedo sumuy atento y Seguro Servidor.

(Axel Pira)

11/28/36

11/10/36

Dear Mr. Webster:

We came - and we saw but how
we regretted your not being here.

I brought a friend, Mr. Carlos
Rice to meet you. He has a very beau-
tiful plant store and garden. He en-
joyed your store. He says there are
beautiful birds of all kinds around
the place.

He cannot tell you how disappointed
I was to find you gone. Drop me
a line and tell me when we can
call on you or when you are
coming to Guatemala.

kindest regards -
Conchita Hengstenberg

n/8/36

Guatemala 7 de Noviembre de 1936.

Mr

Alexander Wetmore

Antigua.

Estimable señor Wetmore:

Por la prensa me enteré con agrado que usted, procedente de Estados Unidos se ha dirigida a esta República con el objeto de cazar algunas especies de esta Fauna.

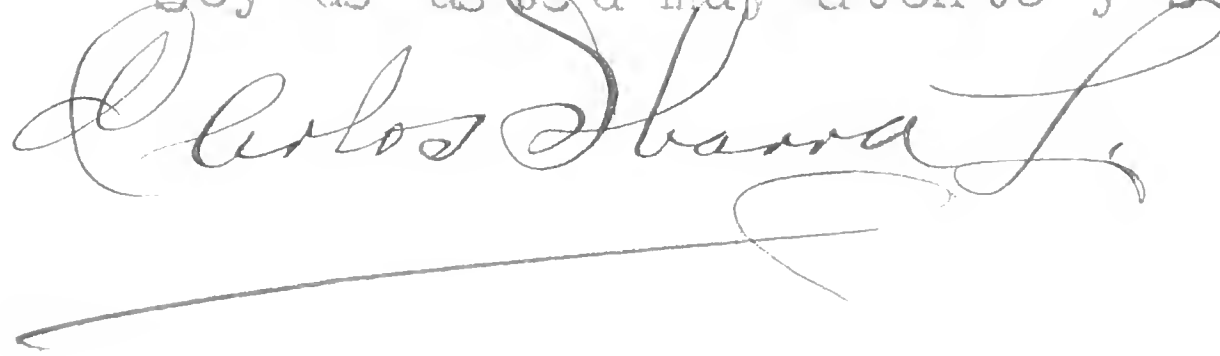
Yo hace mucho tiempo me dedico a esto, habiendo adquirido algunos ejemplares de todas las regiones de la República y tendría mucho gusto en ofrecerle algunas especies de las que precisamente no pueda coleccionar por cualquiera circunstancia.

Hace un año y varios meses, estuvo en esta República el Barón Rodolfo de Schauensee, su señora y un señor Marquez de Fioravante con el mismo objeto de usted; tuve oportunidad de estar con ellos en varias partes y en poco tiempo se pudieron coleccionar muchas especies que remitieron a Filadelfia.

Antes que esta carta, puse otra dirigida a Hotel Manchén de esa Cabecera, pero como no obtuve contestación, me imagino que no llegó a su poder.

Yo vivo en esta Capital, Avenida de Corona #7, en donde espero tener noticias suyas pues me sería muy grato poderle servir de algo, cooperando en lo que guste.

Soy de usted muy atento y seguro servidor.



Carlos Ibarra Ibarra ve
Avenida de Corona # 7.

PRESIDENTE:
ERNESTO SCHAEFFER

MIEMBRO DEL ROTARY INTERNATIONAL Nº 2041

JUNTA DIRECTIVA:

ERNESTO SCHAEFFER
ARTURO BICKFORD
JULIO MONTANO N.
HENRY HOEPKER
CARLOS F. NOVELLA
J. H. VINTER
L. C. NEWBILL

VICEPRESIDENTE:
ARTURO BICKFORD

TESORERO:
HENRY HOEPKER

SECRETARIO:
JULIO MONTANO N.



"DAR DE SI ANTES DE PENSAR EN SI"
"SE BENEFICIA MAS EL QUE MEJOR SIRVE"

Rotary Club de Guatemala
Guatemala, Rep. de Guatemala
Centro-América.

APARTADO POSTAL Nº 275.—TEL. 39-00

11/7/36

Will come if possible

Dear

Guatemala, November 5, 1936.

Mr. Alexander Wetmore,
c/o Mr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua G.

Dear Mr. Wetmore:

The members of the local Rotary Club have expressed their desire to listen to a talk by you on the ornithological studies which you are pursuing in Guatemala.

The object of this letter, therefore, is to extend to you an invitation to attend one of the weekly Rotary luncheon meetings which are held at the Palace Hotel every Wednesday at 12:30 P. M. If you find it possible to accept our invitation, kindly let me know which meeting it will be convenient to attend.

Hoping to have the pleasure of seeing you with us soon, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Ernesto Schaeffer
President.

ES-jfe

PALACE HOTEL
GUATEMALA, C. A.

Oct 31-1936

Dear Mr. Wetmore,

Received your note on our return from the Mayan Inn where we had spent two most interesting days.

We would be most happy to have lunch with you on Tuesday.

think the forthcoming fashion would be delightful. But

before receiving your note we had invited Ponchita Valenzuela (the little Spanish girl we met on the boat) to make the trip with us

PALACE HOTEL

GUATEMALA, C. A.

Planning to pick you up and
take you to the Aurora Inn
to lunch with us.

She as well as ourselves will
love having lunch with you
at the "La Casa Colonial" - so
different, but do not want
to make more trouble for
you - so if you wish to change
and go to the Inn with us - it
will be alright.

Looking forward to seeing
you on Tuesday - and hoping

PALACE HOTEL

GUATEMALA, C. A.

the Sun continues to shine
for us -

Sincerely yours

Alma S. Pallen.

COPY

dim 11/12/36 Panajachel, Guatemala

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 30, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Asst. Secretary, Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the National Geographic Society will be held at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, December 10, 1936, in Hubbard Memorial Hall.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on October 22nd, the names of Mr. Elisha Hanson and Dr. Charles F. Kettering were suggested as candidates to fill the two vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Dr. Kettering is President of the Research Laboratories of the General Motors Corporation, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and is distinguished for his researches both in this country and abroad.

Mr. Hanson is the General Counsel of the American Newspaper Publishers Association and has acted in the capacity of The Society's Counsel during the past four or five years. His services have been exceedingly valuable to The Society and he has been a member of The Society for many years.

The Executive Committee, therefore, unanimously recommend to the Board the election of Dr. Kettering and Mr. Hanson to fill these two vacancies on the Board of Trustees.

Pursuant to the By-laws, I enclose a nominating ballot and request that you indicate your suggestions on the ballot and return it at your early convenience so that the vacancies may be filled at the December meeting of the Board.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) George W. Hutchison
Secretary.

Guatemala 29 de Octubre de 1936.

Señor Don
Alexander Wetmore
Hotel Palace.

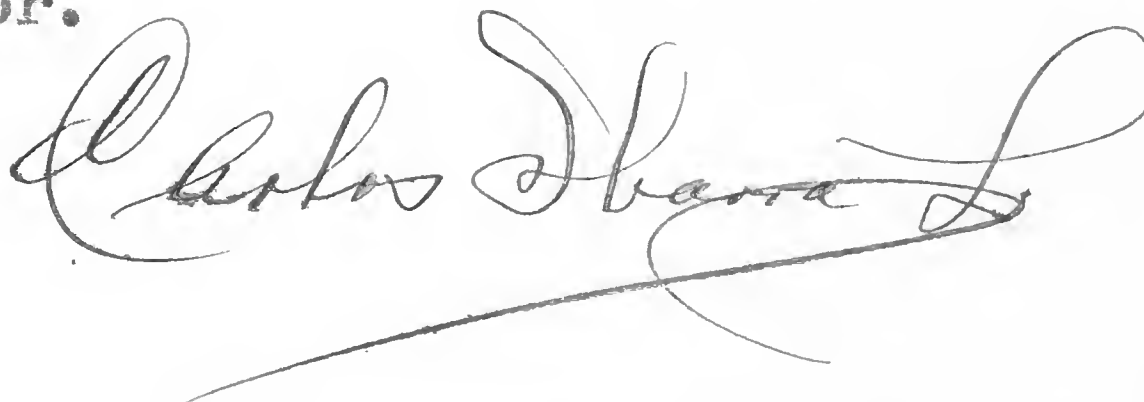
Muy señor mío:

Por la prensa me he enterado que usted se encuentra en esta República con objeto de adquirir animales de nuestra fauna.

Yo me dedico a disecar animales de todas las regiones del País y tengo algunas buenas especies preparadas en piel como para el objeto que desea, es decir conducirlos a Estados Unidos.

En caso que usted tenga interés en algunos ejemplares, yo vivo en el Callejón Delfino #7, en donde espero sus órdenes, ya sea para que usted los vea o para que yo le pueda llevar al Hotel los animales aunque esto es difícil por no saber cuales especies son las que prefiere.

En espera de sus noticias quedo de usted su muy atento y seguro servidor.



Carlos Ibarra Larrave
Callejón Delfino #7.

JEFATURA POLITICA
Y
COMANDANCIA DE ARMAS



ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

DEPTO. DE SACATEPEQUEZ

213

NUM. <u>15467</u>
REF <u>ilmch/OF.10----</u>

AL CONTESTAR, SIRVASE MENCIONAR EL NUMERO
Y REFERENCIA DE ESTA NOTA.

ASUNTO:

Antigua, 28 de octubre de 1936.

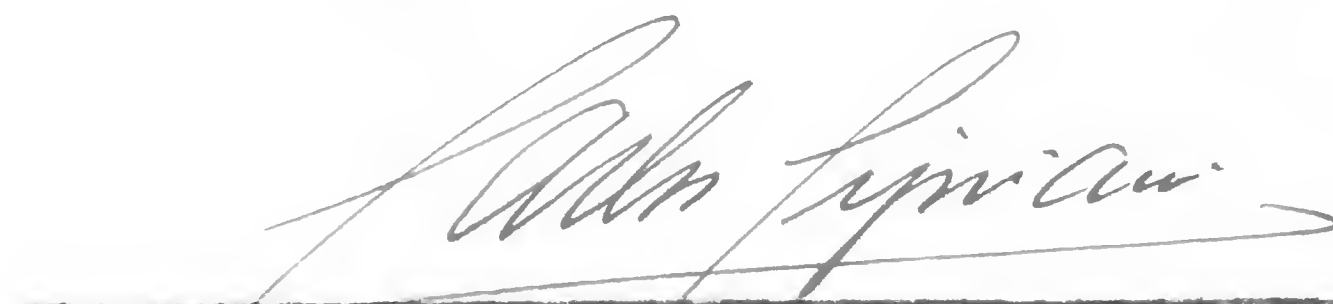
Señor Doctor
Alexander Wetmore
Presente.-

Muy señor mío:

De conformidad con nuestra conversación personal de esta mañana, tengo el gusto de manifestarle que, ya está preparada la persona a que Usted se refirió. Se trata del señor Eduardo Méndez, persona de toda confianza y quien previamente ha sido enterado de sus atribuciones, en lo que se refiere a Usted, -siendo el salario de Q.0.75, diarios.-

Con demostraciones de mi distinguida consideración y deseando serle útil, soy de Usted su muy Atento y Seguro Servidor,





Carlos Cipriani.-

11/6/36

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 28, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
c/o Consulado de Los Estados Unidos del Norte,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Dear Doctor Wetmore:

In view of the fact that several things in which you are greatly interested have happened since your absence, I will bring you up-to-date as far as possible.

The Daveron matter took considerable of my time since I wanted to go into it from all possible angles. After talking it over with Miller, Kellogg and the Secretary, and discussing the situation very frankly with Mr. Duggan of the State Department, I felt that it would be best to put ourselves definitely on record with the State Department. Mr. Daveron had already shown letters from you and had received cooperation from the Consul. It appeared to me, therefore, that it would be definitely advantageous to place on record with the State Department any relationship we might have to his work and also to be certain that it was definitely understood that assistance he might be given would relate to specimens belonging to us and not a lot of miscellaneous material which he might send to us for temporary storage or trans-shipment elsewhere. Mr. Daveron had also quoted Mr. Miller as authority for the statement that Embassies would receive and forward shipments sent to them. Mr. Duggan pointed out to me that this was not one of their functions, and I thought it best to so inform Mr. Daveron. The letter sent to the State Department had Mr. Duggan's approval before it was sent. In fact it was changed slightly so the last sentence would make our request one that they could meet. The attached copies of letters on the subject indicate the action taken. Mr. Duggan saw no reason why the Consul could not continue cooperating with Mr. Daveron in expediting clearance of material. Whether this cooperation will extend to the point where he will receive and forward shipments and make it unnecessary for Mr. Daveron to come down to the Coast each time is a matter which they will settle there. I have a feeling that the extent of cooperation received will depend pretty much on Mr. Daveron's methods of approach.

In a telephone conversation with Senator Hill, Mr. Daveron's relations with the Institution were explained to him in detail. He was told that his letter appeared to be all right and he said he would send it on. I told him that from the only letter of Mr. Daveron's which I had the opportunity of examining, it appeared that he was quite abrupt at times and that possibly this had some effect on his relations with the Embassy. Senator Hill seemed to appreciate the situation.

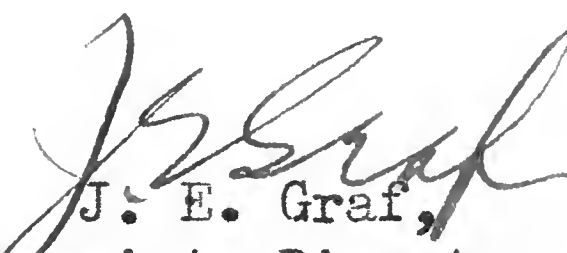
On the request of Mr. Perrygo, we sent \$60.00 to him in Huntington, West Virginia.

Mr. Schroeder of the San Diego Zoo wired that one of their male elephant seals died. We told him we would like to have the skeleton and genitalia, and he wired two days ago indicating that the skeleton was going forward to us freight collect. Knowing your own interest in such specimens, I feel that we have been most fortunate. The only way we would possibly get such material cheaper would be to have one die in the Zoo. Also the principal portion of the expenditure connected with this material will be freight. *

Mr. Setzler left for New York and Boston this morning.

Everything is going very nicely. We had heavy frosts on the 26th and 27th, but it now seems to be warming up.

Yours very truly,


J. E. Graf,
Associate Director.

* Just rec'd letter from Mr. Daveron. Cost
of freight is \$13.50 per box & cost. SI
will handle this.

Enclosures
jeg-s

Alfred

McIntyre & Ritzler have a plan of transferring all the books outside A.M.T. to Ethnology to be stored in that Court under some type of shelter. I told them that any storage in that Court would require careful study & would not wait upon you get home. That Court is exposed to public view.

The Phone Room will need a little dry cleaning before you return. Ann transferring the W.P.A. report out next Monday. She is anxious to spill something (I understand) p. 14-15 & I will listen to her story next Monday. Right now it looks like a warning & withdrawal of Treasuryship of Hospitalization funds are in order, but we will proceed cautiously to be certain. That procedure is not running too strong in certain quarters. I'm keeping my fingers crossed in that direction.

a new study structure developed

shortly after you left but
have now been settled. It concerned
expense & involved a number of
S.T. staff. The day, 14th & I
spent several important days
but I hope the action taken
will last, at least the time.
has been separated from the
main.

aside from these matters
other something is Jake.
Hoping your trip is all over
and you are home, the birds are
there where expected, Pigeons
high up is as high as ever. Don't

Love of Birds

J



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Guatemala, October 26, 1936.

Estimado Señor Coronel:

Por ésta, deseo presentarle a Usted el Doctor Alexander Wetmore, del Instituto "Smithsonian" quien ha sido amigo mío por muchos años. Doctor Wetmore quiere hacer una visita al Departamento bajo su digno mando con el objeto de coleccionar pájaros. El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores ha extendido permiso por su trabajo y el Ministerio de Guerra le ha dado una licencia para portar armas.

Le agradeceré cualquier ayuda que Usted pueda dar al Doctor Wetmore.

Con expresiones de alto aprecio, quedo de Usted,

Su atento y seguro servidor,

Gerald A. Drew,
Encargado de Negocios ad interim.

Honorable Señor
Coronel don Fidel Torres,
Jefe Político,
Solola.

6

4

5

29

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the function $f(x)$ defined by the equation

October 24, 1936.

Dear Mr. Daveron:

I am replying to your letter of August 17, addressed to Doctor Wetmore. The Institution is transmitting to the State Department a request that such aid as may be practicable be given by the appropriate official in expediting the clearance of such specimens as are to become the property of the Institution. From a conversation with officials at the State Department, we understand that the receipt and forwarding of shipments is not one of the functions of an Embassy.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

Mr. Alexander Daveron,
c/o Fernando Lee,
Caixa Postal 420,
Sao Paulo, Brazil.

October 24, 1936.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It has just come to my attention that Mr. Alexander Daveron, whose address is c/o Fernando Lee, Caixa Postal 420, Sao Paulo, Brazil, is meeting with some difficulty in shipping to the Smithsonian Institution biological specimens which the Institution is purchasing from him.

Mr. Daveron is not connected with the Institution, being in Brazil on research work of his own, and he is also collecting biological specimens which are purchased by the Institution. He states that it would save him considerable time and expense if shipments of such biological material could be received by the Embassy and forwarded to this country. These specimens are of interest to us, and it would be appreciated if the appropriate official could give such assistance as is practicable in expediting the clearance of specimens which are to become the property of the Institution.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

2607 (11-34)

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY—GUATEMALA DIVISION

TARJETA DE IDENTIFICACION DE TURISTA

TOURIST IDENTIFICATION CARD

Nombre del pasajero
Name of passenger

Alexander Wetmore

Edad
Age

50

Estado Civil

B

Married or Single

Profesión u oficio
Occupation

Biologist

Nacionalidad Actual
Nationality

USA

Domicilio

Country in which domiciled

METAPAN

Nombre del Vapor
Name of Steamer

Motivo del Viaje
Purpose of Voyage

Turista

Puerto de procedencia del pasajero

Port of origin of the passenger

NEW ORLEANS

Lugar a donde se dirige
Place of destination

Guatemala

Manifiesto No.
Manifest No.

1

Partida No.
Line No.

20

Fecha
Date

OCT 25 1936

Firma del pasajero
Passenger's signature

Alexander Wetmore

Firma del capitán
Captain's signature

W H Fagan

ADVERTENCIA: Esta tarjeta debe ser retenida por el pasajero como medio de identificación al salir de Guatemala.

NOTE: This card MUST be retained by passenger for identification purposes upon leaving Guatemala.



(OFFICIAL ORDER)

No. 3474

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

To Dr. A. Wetmore,
U.S. National Museum.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 21, 1936

Please forward goods and bills, bearing order number, to Property Clerk, U. S. National Museum.

J. E. GRAF,
Associate Director.

Allotment for traveling expenses to Guatemala, C.A. and return.	\$225 00
---	----------

Letter of detail dated Oct. 16, 1936.

11/24/36
invited to lunch
12³⁰ Dec. 1

Oct. 19, 1936

Dear Mr. Johnston:

If by any chance you have a moment I would like to see you before you leave. I am very anxious to find out what information is available on the birds of Guatemala.

I would be very glad to have you join me in a meal either in Antigua or Guatemala as may be convenient.

You may remember me of your early trip to Patateco during which I had the pleasure of meeting you.

You can get me either by wire or phone or letter at the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura at Finca Alameda, Chivaterango.

John R. Johnston.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 16, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Assistant Secretary,
Smithsonian Institution.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

On or about October 17, 1936 you are instructed to proceed from Washington, D.C., to Guatemala, C. A. to carry on official work for the U. S. National Museum.

You will be allowed usual transportation expenses from Washington, D.C. to Puerto Barrios, Guatemala and return, including railroad fare, pullman and transportation by boat not to exceed \$225.00, payable from the appropriation "Preservation of Collections, U. S. National Museum, 1937."

Very truly yours,

A. Wetmore
Assistant Secretary.

p

October 16, 1936.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
c/o United Fruit Company,
1 Federal Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Pop:

I am happy to write that the operation on Mrs. Wetmore's throat for the removal of a small tumor has been entirely successful and that she is now entirely restored to health. In view of this I am going to Guatemala after all and shall sail on the Metapan from New Orleans on October 21. Hess's to Maria's black bean soup! I shall be around until the first of December and hope indeed that you will be in Guatemala during that time. Incidentally I have given department store clerks several good laughs in an attempt to buy a coal oil lamp in Washington. Finally I have postponed that purchase until I get to New Orleans.

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

October 16, 1936.

Mr. Arthur A. Pollan,
Vice President, United Fruit Company,
1 Federal Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Pollen:

Following your kind letter of September 14 I was forced to postpone my trip to Guatemala due to illness in my family which now happily is at an end. I have a reservation on the Metapan sailing from New Orleans on October 21, and shall look forward to meeting the representatives of your company in Central America.

Very truly yours,

A. WELMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

October 13, 1936.

Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, Director
Bureau of Standards,
Washington, D.C.

Attention: Dr. Brumbacher,
Aeronautical Instruments Division.

Dear Dr. Briggs:

Please accept my thanks for your prompt attention
to my request for the calibration of a Kollsman sensitive
altimeter. The instrument has just come to hand, and I
appreciate the report that accompanies it.

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE
Assistant Secretary.

lp

October 13, 1936.

Mr. H. W. Dorsey,
Administrative Assistant to the Secretary,
Smithsonian Institution.

Dear Mr. Dorsey:

In the schedule for field exploration approved by the Secretary for the present year there is included an item of \$800.00 for field work in tropical America by me. I beg to ask that advance of the amount indicated be made to me for field expenses. Proper accounting will be made upon my return from the south.

Very truly yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

EDUARDO DIAZ B.

Pampojilá

SAN LUCAS TOLIMAN



11/5/36

Pampojilá, 3 - 10 - de 1936.

Señor Alexander Wetmore
Guatemala City

Dear Sir,

I read on the "Imperial" about your arrival to Barrios yesterday and also your interest in our country's birds. You might be looking for and expect to look for, hunt and prepare same for exportation. I have worked with Mr. Ludlow Griscom and Mrs. Alfred A. Anthony of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Mass. during their visit to our country on 1931. They were very pleased with my work. You may inquire from them, about me.

I could accept any proposition for hunting as well as preparing birds, etc. I made my studies and practices at the "Carignano Museum" Torino, Italy. Besides knowing this country from end to end I am also familiar with the Indian's language Cakchiquel, it may be of some use to you if you require my help.

If you are interested, please address to yours truly

Julio Sprechel
San Lucas Tolimán. Dep. Solola
Guatemala

EDUARDO DIAZ B.

Pampojilá

SAN LUCAS TOLIMAN



11/5/36

Pampojilá, 3 - 10 - de 1936.

Señor Alexander Wetmore
Guatemala City

Dear Sir,

I read on the "Infrancial" about your arrival to Barrios yesterday and also your interest in our country's birds. You might be looking for and expect to look for, hunt and prepare some for exportation. I have worked with Mr. Ludlow Griscom and Mr. Alfred D. Sutter of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Mass. during their visit to our country in 1931.

They were very pleased with my work. You may inquire from them, about me.

I could accept any proposition for hunting as well as preparing birds, etc. I made my studios and practiced at the "Carignano Museum" Torino, Italy. Besides knowing this country from end to end I am also familiar with the Indian's language Cachiquel, it may be of some use to you if you require my help.

If you are interested, please address to yours truly.

Julio Srecher
San Lucas Toliman - Dep. Solola
Guatemala



OFFICE OF
MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
RELIEF STATION
OLD FCST OFFICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
12TH STREET & PENNSYLVANIA AVE., N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 26, 1936.

To Whom it May Concern:

This is to certify that A. Wetmore received
three inoculations of typhoid vaccine as follows:

September 12, 19 and 26, 1936.

By direction of the Medical Officer in Charge.

Thos. A. Moneymaker
Thomas A. Moneymaker
Assistant Surgeon (R)

TAM-jkh



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Guatemala, September 26, 1936.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

I am enclosing herewith a permit to
carry arms for three months, issued by the
Ministry of War.

Very truly yours,

Gerald A. Drew,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Guatemala.

September 26, 1936.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
United Fruit Company,
1 Federal Street,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Pop:

I have sad news. Night before last it developed that Mrs. Wetmore has to undergo a serious operation within the next few days. Under these circumstances my Guatemala trip is off for the present until things straighten out for me a little more clearly.

I have been looking forward to this and had all arrangements made even to passage on the Musa a week from today. However all this will have to be postponed until some time later.

A note from Tom Barbour indicates that you are in this country so I am writing you immediately. You have been most kind and I hope before too long to be able to avail myself of "La Casa Popenoe" in Antigua.

Are you coming to Washington? I hope so. If you do be sure to let me know. With my best.

Sincerely yours,

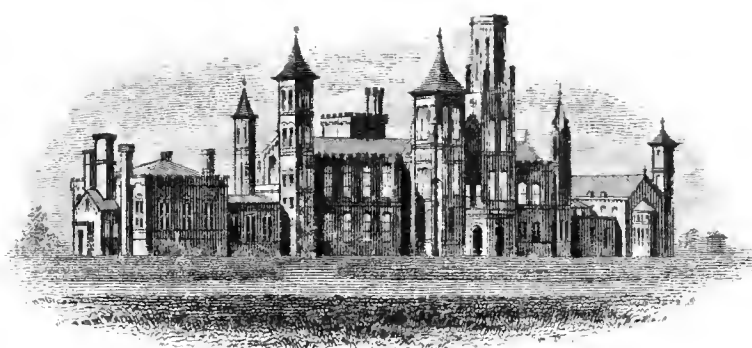
A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY
NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

ALL CORRESPONDENCE
SHOULD BE ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Washington, U.S.A.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
FREER GALLERY OF ART
INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

September 25, 1936

Friends and Correspondents
of the Smithsonian Institution

Gentlemen:

This letter will introduce Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, who is visiting Guatemala for the purpose of making ornithological studies and collecting specimens for the U. S. National Museum.

Any courtesies or facilities which may be extended to Dr. Wetmore in the prosecution of his work will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours

Oliver Abbot
Secretary

B:W



September 23, 1936.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Assistant Secretary,
Smithsonian Institution.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

On or about October 1, 1936 you are instructed to proceed from Washington, D.C., to Guatemala, C.A. to carry on official work for the U. S. National Museum.

You will be allowed usual transportation expenses from Washington, D.C. to New York City and return, including railroad fare and pullman, and transportation by boat to Guatemala and return not to exceed \$200.00, payable from the appropriation "Preservation of Collections, U. S. National Museum, 1937."

Very truly yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

A. WEIMORE
SEP 25 1936

Sacaton
Sept 21

Dear Wetmore.

I'm glad you got something of use from my Guatemala notes and delighted we were able to catch Pop and get you located at Antigua. Give my best to good old Maria. I can see her now padding in with what Pop calls the indispensables - you guessed it J. Walker and White rock.

You will find the Muesca a most comfortable ship and if she is still in command of Capt Grant you will like him too. Rather a young lad but he has written at least three good books together with several short stories. His sea stories (the only ones we read) are very good. A keen sense of humor and a fixed belief that you can make old fashioned out of rum. A little skepticism on your part will keep him proving it to you and save signing so many chits.

Knowing you will be delighted with Guatemala and wishing you the very best of luck I am
As ever
J. Kempton

September 19, 1936.

Dr. L. S. Rowe, Directore General
Pan American Union,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

You have been kind indeed in furnishing the letters of introduction for my use in Guatemala that come with your letter of September 17. I am looking forward with keen interest to this journey and appreciate highly the assistance that you are giving.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary.

lp

September 18, 1936.

My dear Dr. Recinos:

I beg to acknowledge with my best thanks your letters of introduction to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and to Senor Latour, Jefe del Protocolo of that Department, which reached me this morning.

My plans for my journey are going forward and I expect to sail on the Musa from New York City on October 3. I am looking forward with keen anticipation to my visit to your country.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Acting Secretary.

Senor Dr. Don Adrian Recinos,
E. E. and M. P. of Guatemala,
1614 Eighteenth Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

September 17, 1936.

Mr. J. H. Kempton,
c/o U. S. Field Station,
Sacaton, Arizona.

Dear Kempton:

In accordance with my letter to you of yesterday I am holding the journal to be returned to you at your office on your return to Washington. It has been most useful to me. When the journal gets back to you I hope to know much more about Guatemala than I do at present.

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

L. S. ROWE

DIRECTOR GENERAL

E. GIL BORGES

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

THE PAN AMERICAN UNION
IS THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
MAINTAINED BY THE TWENTY-ONE
AMERICAN REPUBLICS FOR THE DE-
VELOPMENT OF GOOD UNDERSTANDING,
FRIENDLY INTERCOURSE, COMMERCE
AND PEACE AMONG THEM; CONTROLLED
BY A GOVERNING BOARD COMPOSED
OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE
UNITED STATES AND THE DIPLOMATIC
REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON OF
THE OTHER REPUBLICS; ADMINISTERED
BY A DIRECTOR GENERAL AND ASSIST-
ANT DIRECTOR, CHOSEN BY THIS BOARD
AND ASSISTED BY A STAFF OF INTER-
NATIONAL EXPERTS, STATISTICIANS,
EDITORS, COMPILERS, TRANSLATORS
AND LIBRARIANS.

PAN AMERICAN UNION



WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

September 17, 1936.

ARGENTINA	GUATEMALA
BOLIVIA	HAITI
BRAZIL	HONDURAS
CHILE	MEXICO
COLOMBIA	NICARAGUA
COSTA RICA	PANAMA
CUBA	PARAGUAY
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	PERU
ECUADOR	UNITED STATES
EL SALVADOR	URUGUAY
	VENEZUELA

A. WETMORE

SEP 18 1936

My dear Dr. Wetmore:

In fulfilment of my promise, I am sending to
you herewith three letters of introduction which I am
certain will be of service to you. They are to the
following persons:

- (1) Hon. José González Campo,
Minister of Finance, and Acting
Minister of Foreign Affairs during the
illness of Dr. Alfredo Skinner Klée,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.
- (2) Hon. Carlos Salazar, one of the
leading men of Guatemala.
- (3) Hon. Ramiro Fernández, former
Secretary of the Legation at Washington,
and now practicing law.
Guatemala City, Guatemala.
- (4) Dr. Félix Castellanos,
President of the University of
Guatemala.

If I can be of further service to you please do
not hesitate to let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Rowe,
Director General.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.



THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
PAN AMERICAN UNION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

17 de septiembre de 1936

Muy distinguido y querido amigo:

Quiero presentar a usted a mi distinguido amigo el Dr. Alexander Wetmore, uno de los Directores del Museo Nacional de Washington y al mismo tiempo uno de los primeros hombres científicos de los Estados Unidos. El Dr. Wetmore piensa pasar algún tiempo en Guatemala haciendo estudios.

Quiero que él tenga la oportunidad de encontrarse con usted y aprovecho la ocasión para enviar a usted saludos muy afectuosos.

Soy su afmo. amigo,

Señor Lic. Don Ramiro Fernández,
Guatemala,
Guatemala, C. A.

L. S. Rowe
Director General



THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
PAN AMERICAN UNION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

17 de septiembre de 1936

Muy distinguido y querido amigo:

Quiero presentar a usted a mi distinguido amigo el Dr. Alexander Wetmore, uno de los Directores del Museo Nacional de Washington y al mismo tiempo uno de los primeros hombres científicos de los Estados Unidos. El Dr. Wetmore piensa pasar algún tiempo en Guatemala haciendo estudios.

Quiero que él tenga la oportunidad de encontrarse con usted y aprovecho la ocasión para enviar a usted saludos muy afectuosos.

Soy su affmo. amigo,

Señor Lic.
Don Carlos Salazar
Guatemala
Guatemala, C. A.

L. S. Rowe
Director General



THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
PAN AMERICAN UNION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

17 de septiembre de 1936

Muy distinguido Sr. Ministro y querido amigo:

Quiero presentar a usted a mi distinguido amigo
el Dr. Alexander Wetmore, uno de los Directores del
Museo Nacional de Washington y al mismo tiempo uno
de los primeros hombres científicos de los Estados
Unidos. El Dr. Wetmore piensa pasar algún tiempo
en Guatemala haciendo estudios.

Quiero que él tenga la oportunidad de encontrar-
se con usted y aprovecho la ocasión para enviar a us-
ted saludos muy afectuosos.

Soy su affmo. amigo,

Excmo. Señor
Lic. José González Campo,
Ministro Interino de Relaciones
Exteriores,
Guatemala,
Guatemala, C. A.

L. S. Rowe
Director General



THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
PAN AMERICAN UNION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

17 de septiembre de 1936

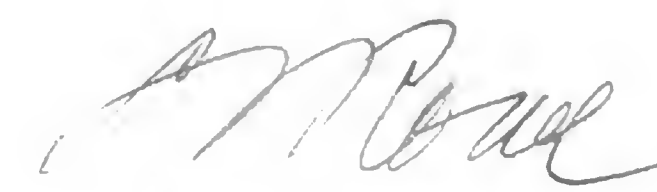
Muy distinguido Señor Rector:

Quiero presentar a usted a mi distinguido amigo el Dr. Alexander Wetmore, uno de los Directores del Museo Nacional de Washington, y al mismo tiempo uno de los primeros hombres científicos de los Estados Unidos. El Dr. Wetmore piensa pasar algún tiempo en Guatemala haciendo estudios.

Quiero que él tenga la oportunidad de encontrarse con usted y aprovecho la ocasión para enviar a usted saludos muy afectuosos.

Soy su atento servidor y amigo,

Señor Dr. Félix Castellanos,
Rector de la Universidad Nacional,
Guatemala,
Guatemala, C. A.


L. S. Rowe
Director General

A. WETMORE
SEP 17 1936

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOÖLOGY
AT HARVARD COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

DIRECTOR'S ROOM

September 16, 1936

Doctor Alexander Wetmore
U. S. National Museum
Washington, D. C.

Dear Alex:

Mr. Griscom tells me that you are leaving for Guatemala on October 1 or thereabouts. I do hope you will have a successful and interesting trip.

When I returned from England a few days ago I found a letter awaiting me from my friend Mr. John R. Johnston. Mr. Johnston used to be a Vice President of the United Fruit Company and was in charge of the research department. He has since become connected with the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura (Finca Alameda, Chimaltenango, Guatemala) and has written me regarding cooperation in botanical, agricultural, and entomological work. It occurred to me that he might be of service to you and I know he would be very glad to do anything he could for you.

I have written him that you may be in his vicinity and that I have given you his address. However, do not do anything about this unless it ties up with your plans.

With kindest regards and best good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Barbour

September 16, 1936.

Mr. J. H. Kempton,
c/o U. S. Field Station,
Sacaton, Arizona.

Dear Kempton:

Your journal of your trip in Guatemala of last fall has not only been useful but highly interesting, and I have enjoyed the favor very much indeed. From it I have secured much useful information for my coming trip. I will keep the book here in my office until you return in order to make sure that it will not be mislaid.

Pop has written me most enthusiastically and has put his house in Antigua at my disposal for a base during my work in Guatemala. He has given me a note to old Maria who is now reputed to be expert in making tomares, black bean soup and sancocho; the latter arouses my curiosity but I expect that it is an old friend under a name that is not known to me.

I also have a letter from the Vice President of the United Fruit Company in Boston so that possibly they aim to take care that ornithologists as well as archeologists and botanists get safely aboard in New York City. My reservation is for the Musa sailing October 3. The Guatemalan government advise through the State Department (at an expense of \$8.37 for the cablegram) that my visit will be agreeable. I hope that the Guatemala police take kindly to shotguns so that I may keep out of jail.

Morley was here last week and will return again after the celebrations of the Tercentennary at Harvard. John Graf is off on a vacation in California, and Judd is playing golf this week in Biltmore. He and Clausen went up to New Hampshire but came back almost immediately. I have

not decided whether this was due to cold weather or to the lack of pulchritude among the guests and waitresses at their hotel!

My thanks to you for all you have done for me. I wish you were going to Guatemala instead of Mexico.

Sincerely,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

September 16, 1936.

Mr. Arthur A. Pollan,
Vice President, United Fruit Company,
1 Federal Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Pollan:

I much appreciate your letter of September 14 with reference to my coming visit to Guatemala. The United Fruit Company has been most kind to us on many occasions in the past, and I am looking forward to a personal meeting with your representatives whom I do not now know.

Sincerely yours,

A. WETMORE

Assistant Secretary.

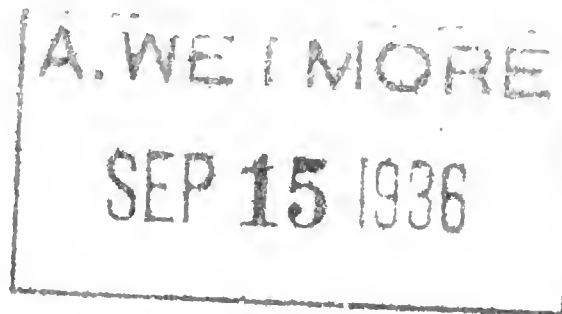
lp

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, ONE FEDERAL STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

ARTHUR A. POLLAN
VICE PRESIDENT
IN CHARGE OF
TROPICAL BANANA DIVISIONS



September 14, 1936

Dr. Alexander Wetmore
Smithsonian Institute
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

At the suggestion of Dr. Wilson Popenoe
I have taken the liberty of writing to our manager
in Guatemala advising him of your coming visit to
that country and requesting that he do all possible
to make your stay in Guatemala a pleasant one.

I trust that your voyage will be a
pleasant one and your visit there interesting
and profitable.

Very truly yours,

A. A. Pollan

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, ONE FEDERAL STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

ARTHUR A. POLLAN
VICE PRESIDENT
IN CHARGE OF
TROPICAL BANANA DIVISIONS

September 14, 1936

Mr. H. T. Heyl
Division Manager
Puerto Barrios, Guatemala

Dear Mr. Heyl:

This will introduce Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington who is sailing for Guatemala on the S.S. Musa, leaving New York October 3rd.

Dr. Wetmore proposes spending some two weeks in Guatemala collecting birds for the United States National Museum. I should very much appreciate anything you might do to assist him during his stay in your country.

Yours very truly,

A. A. Pollan

September 14, 1936.

Mr. Wilson Popenoe,
La Lima, Honduras.

Dear Popenoe:

Your letter of September 3, reached me Saturday noon and has heartened me immensely. I expect to get away now leaving New York on the Musa sailing October 3. This will give me six weeks or so in Guatemala.

I expect to make trips to various localities in search of specimens and appreciate more than I can tell you the privilege of using your house in Antigua as a base. After Jim Kempton's description of black bean soup I am looking forward to sampling this product at the hands of faithful Maria.

This will be my first trip into Central America so that all of the birds will be new to me. I hope to get both in the mountains and the arid country of the Motagua Valley. It will be good fortune indeed if your work brings you to Guatemala during the period that I shall be there.

Incidentally the privilege of your house is more appreciated as it will enable me to rest in quiet without having to mingle in too many other things. I have heard so much of your place that I am keener every day to see it.

I shall be alone and after reading your letter again have decided your advice regarding bedrooms must be sound. I feel that I might not rest well in a Bishop's bed, this of course might depend upon the Bishop!

I have word from the Guatemala government that my visit will be agreeable and that they will allow entry for my shotguns. Apparently everything is set. Let me say again that I deeply appreciate your kindness.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary.



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(C O P I A)

SECRETARIA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA
Sección Diplomática
No. 10628

560 (73-0)

Guatemala, 8 de septiembre de 1936.

Señor Ministro:

Me es honroso acusar recibo a Vuestra Excelencia de su atenta nota No. 98, de fecha 4 del mes en curso, por la cual se sirve informarme que, el Señor Doctor Alexander Wetmore, Secretario Auxiliar del Instituto "Smithsonian", desea hacer una visita a Guatemala con el objeto de coleccionar pájaros destinados al Museo Nacional de los Estados Unidos, quien piensa salir de Washington a mediados del presente mes y que si dicha visita es del agrado del Gobierno, se le permita entrar dos escopetas calibre 16, una pistola calibre 32 de un solo cañon y los cartuchos necesarios, extendiendole a su llegada las cortesías aduaneras correspondientes.

En respuesta me complace en manifestar a Vuestra Excelencia, que la visita del señor Doctor Wetmore, es del agrado de mi Gobierno, y que con gusto se le permite traer las armas y cartuchos indicados, dandosele a su llegada al país las facilidades y cortesías aduaneras que se sirve solicitar Vuestra Excelencia.

Me es grato aprovechar la oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia, las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

(f) José González Campo.

Excelentísimo Señor Fay Allen Des Portes,
Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario
de los Estados Unidos de América,
Ciudad.

A. WETMORE

SEP 12 1936

La Lima, Honduras, 3 Sept 1936

Dear Wetmore,

I have today received word, via my compadre Jim Kempton, of your approaching visit to Guatemala. I hasten to urge that you let me be of assistance in connection with your trip, if there is any manner in which I can do so.

I do not know exactly what portion or portions of the country you expect to work, but if you do not particularly need to make your base in Guatemala City, I strongly urge that you occupy the old house at Antigua. We have, during the past two months, put old Maria through a course of sprouts, and she turns out, at this writing, some of the best black bean soup which ever went down your gullet, not to mention a superior sancocho and very palatable tamales. I am enclosing a note which will give you the run of the house. I am afraid you will find the old library in a bit of a mess, as the boys are probably at work on a fireplace there now; maybe they will get it done in time for you to toast your shins on those long November evenings. If you want to read of evenings, by the way, you will have to provide a kerosene lamp, as we broke the only one in the house, last month, and haven't replaced it yet.

As for grub, you merely have to express your desires to Maria and give her a little pisto, so she can go down to the market and do the needful. I do not know whether you are coming alone, or have someone with you; naturally the invitation extends to the party, provided it does not consist of more than eight persons. We can handle up to that number. Incidentally, I might mention that

you will probably find the sleeping best in one of the two beds in the long bedroom on the south side of the main patio, rather than in the shorter but more picturesque Bishop's Bed in the room behind the fountain. However, that is up to you.

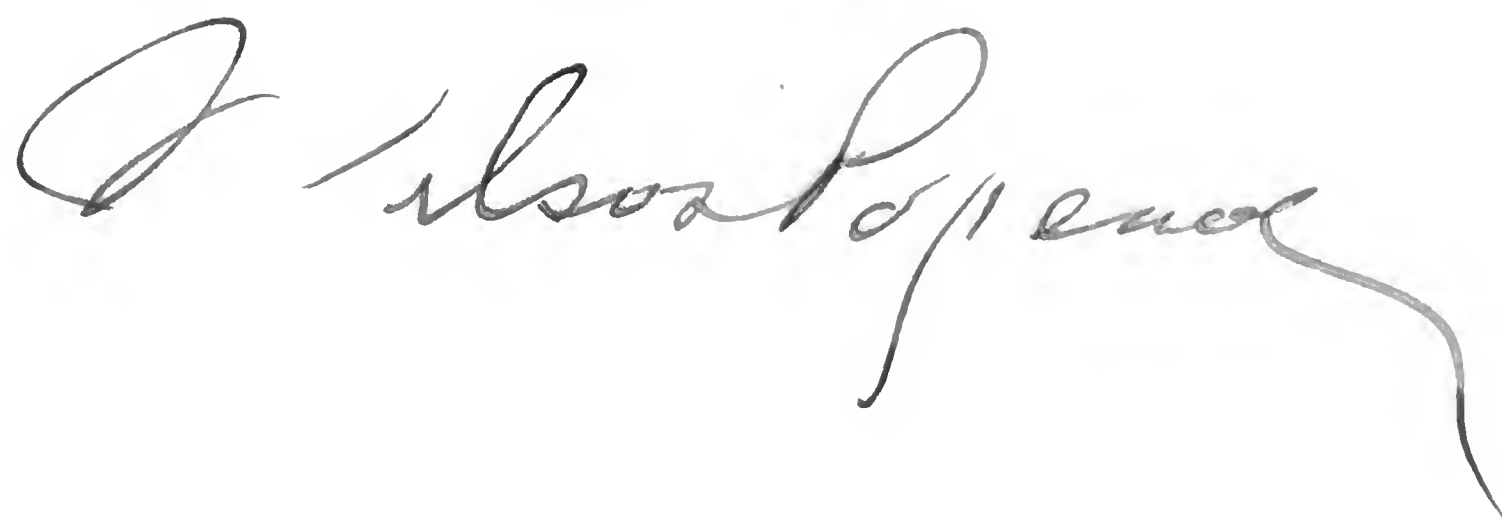
I enclose a note to our agent, Lagarde, at Guatemala City, Before you go over to Antigua, call on him and let him know what your plans are; then he will see that no one intrudes on your privacy. I also enclose a note to Jorge Benitez, our Man Friday, who is not in Antigua all the time, but usually gets there every week end. Jim has probably told you about him. He should prove useful to you, and you can feel free to bother him all you want. He knows a good deal about the highlands, and has prowled around a considerable bit with other distinguished scientists, such as Dr Kempton.

I may get over there before you leave; it is quite possible. But I want you to feel that the house is yours, for the duration of your permanencia, and you just move in and make yourself at home. Incidentally, if you find any wine in the locker, you'd better consume it, as I find it doesn't keep long in that climate. Maria will do your washing for you, and you can come and go as you please. If visitors come to the house, - people who want to see the place, - you can have Maria tell them the house is occupied and the inhabitants cannot be disturbed, unless you are in the mood for receiving visitors.

In other words, la casa es suya. Please use it all you can.

Hoping to see you down here,

Always sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Walter Lawrence". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

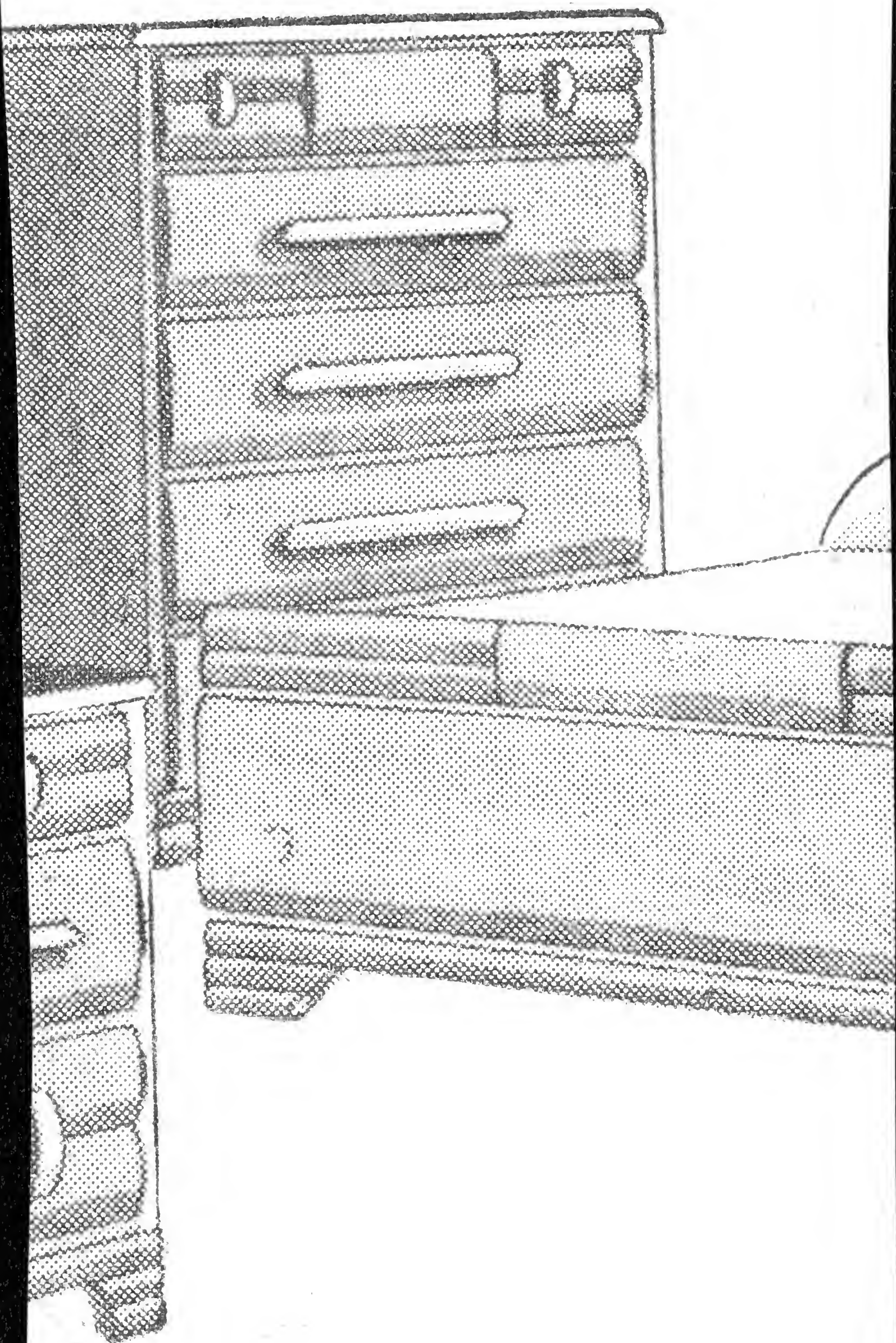
BIRD IN GUATEMALA

"MOOS" LIKE A COW

Guan, Size of Small Turkey, Is
Glossy Black Above and
White Below.

CHICAGO (AP).—A specimen of Derby's guan, a rare Central American bird of striking appearance, which has a call that sounds like the mooing of a cow, has been placed on view among the ornithological exhibits at Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago. The bird, called "faisan" by the natives, is the sole representative of its genus and one of the most regal game birds in the Western Hemisphere, states Emmet R. Blake of the museum staff.

The guan attains the size of a small turkey. It is glossy black above and white below and has a single broad white band across its large fan-shaped tail. A bare red spike, about 2 inches long, is borne upon the head of both sexes. Derby's guan is known only from a few isolated volcanoes in Western Guatemala, says Mr. Blake. Highly specialized as to habitat, these birds never occur beyond the limits of the humid cloud forests which clothe the mountains at between 7,000 and 9,500 feet. The bird's strange call, which resembles the distant lowing of a cow, is one of the most difficult sounds in nature to trace, Mr. Blake states.



Log Cabin Bed R

ted of Solid Peg Maple, in a uni
mellow tone—dustproof construction .
es. This smartly designed maple suite

Chrysler--1934, airflow
Dodge, 1933 and 1934
at \$3.00 per day.

Deslonde Clarke, 7a Avenida Sur y 18 Calle

Come

Wanted

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and

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

....., 193

Mr. O. Gaylord
Marsh

Consul General
Guatemala City

Mr. Fay Des
Portes
American Minister

August 28, 1936.

Mr. Ludlow Griscom,
Museum of Comparative Zoölogy,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Griscom:

Yours of August 26 is more than appreciated because you have told me exactly what I wish to know about travel conditions in Guatemala. I hope to get away about the first of October and to be gone for at least two months. This will cut me out of the A.O.U. meeting but is my only chance to get off this year.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary.

lp

Dear Katherine

A. WEI MORE

AUG 28 1936

Here is the unofficial
report of our Guatemala trip. It will
show you what Pops Maria looks
like and also her underwear.

We written Pop Austin and the Guard
and no doubt you will hear from the
former.

I know you will have a splendid
trip and if you see teosinte in your
pursuit of the birds don't fail to note
the fact and if possible collect a seed
or two.

Looking forward to seeing you around
New Year's Love

As ever

Jim Kempton

August 27, 1936.

Dr. A. V. Kidder,
Carnegie Institution of Washington,
10 Frisbie Place,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Kidder:

Please accept my thanks for yours of August 24, with the information on Guatemala. As I shall not get away until the first week in October following our budget hearings I shall have opportunity to talk to you when you come to Washington.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary.

lp

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
AT HARVARD COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

A. WETMORE

AUG 27 1936

August 26, 1936

Doctor Alexander Wetmore
U. S. National Museum
Washington, D. C.

Dear Wetmore:

I am indeed interested to hear of your proposed trip to Guatemala this fall and envy you the opportunity. I certainly hope that fortune will favour you and you will find it to be a lovely country.

Your entire visit will be during the second half of the rainy season when transportation in the tropical lowlands of the Caribbean slope is difficult and often impossible. So great, however, is the variety of birds in this area and so well known is its fauna that I would not waste my time and money trying to get to some out of the way places. Instead I would use the town of Puerto Barrios itself as headquarters where the United Fruit Company has pleasant dormitories and where you can easily get boats for excursions up various adjacent rivers into heavy forest where you can sample this particular fauna. By proceeding a few miles up the railroad to another United Fruit Company plantation you can dip in in some other spot and perhaps get greater variety.

You should by all means, however, proceed to Guatemala City, hire a car by the week or month through the excellent tourist bureau and make your headquarters at Tsanjuyu, an excellent little inn on the shores of Lake Atitlan, a mile or two from Panajachel. From here you can rise to 11,000 feet on the main road to Huchuetenango, you can descend to the Pacific coast lowlands and, in other words, you can touch every life zone you please.

The Giant Grebe is a rare and local bird on Lake Atitlan but there are some fish and some boats. There are only two places in the Lake in which the Grebe occurs in any numbers. These are the extreme southern end at San Lucas and the extreme western end at Atitlan. Here there is shallower water and a considerable acreage of reed beds in which Coots, Least Bitterns and the Grebe nest. At San Lucas I had no difficulty in hiring a boat for as long as I pleased and there is a little lake steamer which leaves Tsanjuyu twice daily for both these localities across the Lake.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY⁰⁰
AT HARVARD COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

-2-

Your only gamble will be how heavy the rains are this particular season. The chances are that you will be seriously handicapped in getting about on both the Atlantic and the Pacific lowlands but it would be hard luck if you could not get about in the altos where the rainfall is, of course, very much less. Unfortunately, however, it does come in the form of cloudbursts which wash out one or another stretch of the mountain roads which, needless to say, are not prepared with the promptitude which we would expect in our own native land. In August 1930, for instance, it was impossible for me to get to Coban and the highlands of Alta Vera Paz because the heavy rains had destroyed the road, necessitating a long and arduous mule trip through many miles of trails deep in mud.

Here's hoping that you go, that you have a lovely time and that you get at least one more specimen of *Xenotriccus*.

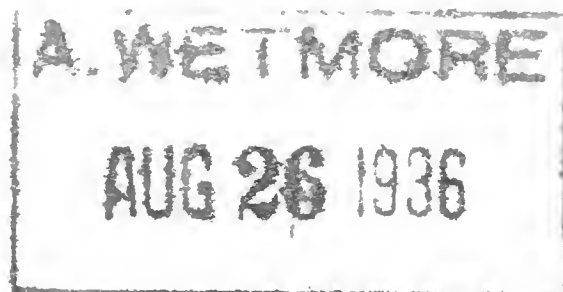
Sincerely yours,

[L. Griscom]

Dictated by not read.

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

10 FRISBIE PLACE
CAMBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS



August 24, 1936

Dr. Alexander Wetmore
U. S. National Museum
Washington, D. C.

Dear Wetmore:

I am delighted to learn that there is a prospect of your going to Guatemala this fall. I hope nothing interferes.

I have never been in Guatemala in October and November, nor has any one of our staff who is here now. I believe, however, that you oughtn't to be greatly troubled by the weather. There are indeed torrential rains just before the dry season comes on, but they affect the Highlands principally, I understand, and I believe you could work the ~~Z~~acapa region perfectly well until they have quit higher up. The ~~Z~~acapa country, as you know, is semi-desert, and ought to make interesting collecting ground. As a matter of fact, I don't believe you would be greatly hampered even in the Highlands, for while it rains very hard, the precipitation is in the form of afternoon thunder showers, and unless you were traveling around a good deal, they ought not to trouble one unduly.

If you do find yourself going down, please let me know as I want to give you letters to various people in Guatemala who might be helpful, and I also want to let our resident secretary, Mr. Bennett, know when you are coming in order that he can aid you in any way possible, (he knows all the Guatemalan ropes,) and put the facilities of our office there at your disposal.

I expect to be in Washington some time during September, and am looking forward to seeing you before you go.

Very sincerely,

A. V. Kidder

AVK:AHW